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the Constitution of the United States; and only five and one-half pages to the discussion of our national history. The space thus gained is effectively used, however, as in chapter XXXI., in a résumé of the effects on civilization of such influences as the advancement of science, railway construction, telegraphs, telephones, and newspapers; of the progress of education and humanitarian movements.

While the influence of certain Mongol statesmen and philosophers receives due recognition there is no attempt to gloss the fact that the nations they represent have, up to modern times because of their isolation and conservatism, failed to partake in the movements which have revolutionized society elsewhere. "Modern and mediaeval European conditions are so different that they can hardly be compared. Chinese conditions in the nineteenth and ninth century are so much alike that it would be difficult to find many points of difference" (p. 64).

The maps are well done, the illustrations are generally satisfactory, and the synchronistic table suggestive.

Little fault may be found to-day with Professor Renouf's main thesis that "The modern transformation of Japan and China is at least as significant as any other event or period in the world's history" (p. 456). Chapters, such as chapter v., on India, China, and Japan, and chapter XXXVII., on the Transformation of the Far East, should be read by all students of history in our secondary schools. But it will not be necessary nor desirable to return to a course in general history, now outgrown in American schools, to accomplish this purpose. Until there shall be incorporated in our text-books, as has been done in some instances, suitable chapters on Oriental history this volume may well be used as supplementary material.

JAMES A. JAMES.

An Introductory History of England. By C. R. L. Fletcher. Volume III. *From the Restoration to the Beginning of the Great War*; Volume IV. *The Great European War.* (New York, E. P. Dutton and Company, 1909, pp. xi, 372; ix, 351.) This is a flippant, colloquially written book, almost degenerating into a comic history at times, as when the author heads one of his chapters "The Age of W[h]igs" (ch. x.). It must be added that the book is written in a stimulating style which has its advantages in arousing the interest of students.

The work is even more objectionable from another point of view. It is an attempt to apply history to present conditions in Great Britain. It consequently partakes of the nature of a pamphlet, advocating a big army, a big navy, the rule of the upper classes, and Imperialism, the writer constantly pointing out the disadvantages arising from the adoption in the past of other policies than these.

The author has the most intense prejudices. He hates the Whigs with all the hatred of Samuel Johnson; he detests party governments, republicans, the Hanoverians, radicals, and Jesuits, and his remarks on

all of these subjects are quite without judicial calmness and well-nigh worthless. The same conclusion is valid for his strictures on men whom he does not like. James II. is "an immeasurable ass", Monmouth "an empty ass", Sunderland "perhaps the blackest-hearted villain in English history", George I. an "incompetent, sulky boor", Bolingbroke "a solemn windbag, without the remotest idea of statesmanship". He is intemperate in his criticisms of Fox, while Franklin, "the Pennsylvania Quaker", is "the most disgusting hypocrite of the lot". The Americans of the Revolution are "rebels", and Napoleon is a tyrant. Indeed the point of view in treating of foreign topics is extremely pro-British and provincial.

His predilections are as strong as his prejudices. His heroes are, of course, the men who stand in his mind for Imperialism: Marlborough, both Pitts, Nelson, Wellington, and above all Castlereagh. It has become the fashion among British historians to praise Castlereagh, and undoubtedly his merits have not been fittingly appreciated by earlier writers. Still, it is hardly true that Castlereagh was "the last great statesman who governed Britain". Such a judgment is excessively favorable, but it is characteristic of the author who knows no measure either in praise or blame.

The writer's notions on economic subjects are strangely mixed. He believes in free trade, but not always, for he thinks it was a mistake to take off the taxes on exported grain; he believes that the Navigation Act had excellent results; and he apparently supposes that a national debt is a national blessing.

The best chapters are those dealing with Scotland, India, Ireland, and the civilization of England in the eighteenth century. These are all too crowded with facts, but on the whole they are very good.

The book is full of interesting details, but in many cases they are unimportant details and necessarily exclude more valuable matter. There is too much space devoted to the minutiae of campaigns, a common error with English historians, and there is a considerable number of inaccurate statements, though perhaps not more than is fairly to be expected in a work covering so large a field.

RALPH C. H. CATTERALL.

A Source History of the United States, from Discovery (1492) to End of Reconstruction (1877), for use in High Schools, Normal Schools, and Colleges. By Howard Walter Caldwell, Professor of American History, University of Nebraska, and Clark Edmund Persinger, Associate Professor of American History, University of Nebraska. (Chicago, Ainsworth and Company, 1909, pp. xvi, 484.) It is now generally conceded that the teaching of history may be deepened and enriched through the judicious use of source-material. This volume has evidently grown out of the experience of the authors who have for many years been advocates of the pure source-method. Here, however, the choice of